

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below, in which deleted terms are shown with strikethrough and added terms are shown with underscoring.

1. (Currently amended) A garbage disposal apparatus comprising:
a garbage disposition port;
a storage chamber communicating with the garbage disposition port to store uncrushed garbage and into which flushing water is supplied;
a crushing section provided adjacent to the storage chamber and having a crushing ~~means~~ mechanism and a clearance for passing therethrough the garbage crushed by the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism;
a discharge section provided in communication with the clearance and having a discharge port for externally discharging the garbage crushed by the crushing section;
a driving ~~means~~ mechanism for driving the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism;
a ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time; and
a ~~means~~ mechanism provided at the discharge section or on ~~[[the]]~~ a downstream side of the discharge section for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side the discharge section.
2. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in order to bring the concentration of the crushed garbage in the discharged water close to a steady value for a predetermined time from the start of discharge to the end of discharge, the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is driven in synchronization with the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side of the discharge section.
3. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per

unit of time is a crush controlling ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the drive condition of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism.

4. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism is composed of a turntable and a rotary blade mounted on the turntable.

5. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 4~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is an automatic feed water ~~means~~ mechanism for adjusting the amount of flushing water to be supplied to the storage chamber.

6. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 4~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is a clearance adjusting ~~means~~ mechanism for changing the size of the clearance.

7. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 4~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is a garbage disposition amount regulating ~~means~~ mechanism for regulating the amount of garbage supplied to the crushing section provided in the storage chamber and a control ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the garbage disposition amount regulating ~~means~~ mechanism.

8. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side of the discharge section is an impeller adapted to rotate integrally with or separately from the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism.

9. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the impeller is installed on ~~[[the]]~~ an under surface of ~~[[the]]~~ a turntable, and the angle of the impeller is arranged so that the front end section is situated radially inside relative to the rotative direction and the rear end section is situated radially outside to be set back from the radial direction of the front end section.

10. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side of the discharge section is a water supply ~~means~~ mechanism for emitting a jet of water.

11. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the emitting direction of the jet of water by the water supply ~~means~~ mechanism is a direction to accelerate the flow to the discharge port.

12. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side of the discharge section is a water supply ~~means~~ mechanism for emitting a jet of water from a predetermined direction to a trap section on the downstream side of the discharge port.

13. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side of the discharge section is a pump for pumping out a fluid.

14. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the crush control ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the drive condition of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism is a motor control section for controlling ~~[[the]]~~ a revolving speed and ~~[[the]]~~ an operating time

of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism, and the control by the motor control section is a variable operation whereby stoppage, low speed revolution, or high speed revolution are rotatively repeated.

15. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage discharged within the discharge section or on the downstream side of the discharge section is an impeller adapted to rotate integrally with or separately from the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism.

16. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the crush control ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the drive condition of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism is a motor control section for controlling [[the]] a revolving speed and [[the]] an operating time of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism, and the control by the motor control section is a variable operation whereby stoppage, low speed revolution, or high speed revolution are rotatively repeated.

17. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the crush control ~~means~~ mechanism for controlling the drive condition of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism is a motor control section for controlling [[the]] a revolving speed and [[the]] an operating time of the crushing ~~means~~ mechanism, the control by the motor control section is a variable operation whereby stoppage, low speed revolution, or high speed revolution are rotatively repeated, and the operating time of the last or proximate high speed revolution is longer than that of other high speed revolutions.

18. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~claims 14 through 17~~ claim 14, wherein the mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is an automatic feed water mechanism for adjusting the amount of flushing water to be supplied to the storage chamber, and the amount of flushing water to be supplied by the automatic feed water ~~means~~ mechanism is increased immediately after the start of the variable

operation.

19. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~claims 14 through 17~~ claim 14, wherein the mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is an automatic feed water mechanism for adjusting the amount of flushing water to be supplied to the storage chamber, and the amount of flushing water to be supplied by the automatic feed water ~~means~~ mechanism is stopped once in the middle of the variable operation.

20. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~claims 14 through 17~~ claim 14, wherein the mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is an automatic feed water mechanism for adjusting the amount of flushing water to be supplied to the storage chamber, and the amount of flushing water to be supplied by the automatic feed water ~~means~~ mechanism is continued for a predetermined period of time after the variable operation is completed.

21. (Currently amended) The garbage disposal apparatus according to ~~claims 14 through 17~~ claim 14, wherein the crushing mechanism is composed of a turntable and a rotary blade mounted on the turntable, the mechanism for controlling the amount of garbage passing through the clearance per unit of time is an automatic feed water mechanism for adjusting the amount of flushing water to be supplied to the storage chamber, and the water supply means is driven in synchronization with the control of the number of revolutions of the turntable so that the amount of water supply from the water supply ~~means~~ mechanism is increased in response to the decrease in the number of revolutions of the turntable.